

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA,
HELD THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2014

The Honorable Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, met in regular session on Thursday, June 26, 2014, at 6 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, there being present:

President:	Russell
Councilpersons:	Culver, Olshefski, Kling, Showers
Mayor:	Battle
City Administrator:	Hamilton
City Attorney:	Joffrion
City Clerk-Treasurer:	Hagood

President Russell called the meeting to order. He asked for a moment of silence by all who would like to participate.

President Russell led the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council held on June 12, 2014, were approved as submitted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Resolutions and Special Recognitions. He recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle asked Mr. Greg Patterson, Director of Parks and Recreation, to come forward for a special recognition of an All-State baseball player.

Mr. Patterson stated that they had been recognizing several outstanding athletes at the prior Council meetings and

that at this meeting they had Whitt Davis, and he asked him to come forward. He stated that Whitt was a rising junior at Huntsville High School and had recently been named All-State, as a sophomore. He stated that Whitt was a pitcher and first baseman and that he did quite well, that he hit the ball well and pitched well, and that he had a great future. He congratulated Whitt for his outstanding accomplishments during the year.

Mayor Battle stated that Whitt was the grand-nephew of Joe Davis, who had served as the mayor of Huntsville for 24 years.

Mayor Battle congratulated Whitt for his outstanding achievements.

Mayor Battle stated that there were a number of persons present in the audience from the Finance, Clerk-Treasurer, Human Resources, and ITS departments who had all worked with the new financial package they would be discussing later in the meeting. He asked these persons to stand and be recognized, noting that they were some of the hardest working persons in the City. He thanked them for their attendance at this meeting.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution recognizing the 2014 Davis Family Reunion, to be held at the Country Inn & Suites By Carlson-Huntsville, July 4-6, 2014, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-441)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers read from the resolution, recognizing the 2014 Davis Family Reunion and giving the history of the Davis family. He stated that according to some of the early written records of Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church, located in Madison, Alabama, Edmund Davis was one of the founding fathers of the church, which had originally been called Pleasant Grove, and had served as a trustee and a deacon. He stated that the Davis family continued this legacy with the church through the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth generations. He stated that the Davis family had recognized the importance of education and that this tradition had been practiced by succeeding generations and that the Davis family had experienced tremendous social mobility, with many of the young men having served in the United States military and others having moved to other towns and cities throughout the nation, whereas at this time the Davis family spanned the entire United States. He continued that at this time the Davis family included businessmen and women, nurses, educators, homemakers, clergymen, musicians, and technical and skilled professionals in all phases of the government, including all branches of the armed services, and public and private institutions and corporations.

Councilman Showers stated that the City of Huntsville was proud to have the Davis family members back in the city for this reunion, noting that many had traveled great distances to be a part of this event. He stated that it was truly inspiring to learn that families such as the Davis family still viewed unity as a sacred responsibility.

Councilman Showers stated that with this resolution the Council and the Mayor of the City of Huntsville wished to acknowledge the Davis family and express best wishes for a successful reunion.

Councilman Showers stated that he would be presenting the resolution to the Davis family, on behalf of the Mayor and the Council, at the event to be held July 4-6, 2014.

President Russell stated that items 15.b and 15.c had been deleted from the agenda.

President Russell stated that at this time there would be a presentation on the Information Revolution.

Mayor Battle stated that the Financial Information System was very important to the City of Huntsville. He continued that the mission statement for the City of Huntsville was that they were committed to providing exceptional services to enhance the quality of life for all citizens through the efficient use of resources. He stated that the "efficient use of resources" was something they had to assure they did on a day-to-day basis in the city, noting that how this efficiency was measured was very important.

Mayor Battle stated that the City had been working on financial systems that were 30 and 40 years old, and that it was now time to get into the 21st Century. He continued that it was time that the City had the information it needed to do the internal management that was necessary to be done. He stated that the managers did a very good job on a day-to-day basis, but the job that was done was only as good as the information they had in front of them and how current the information was. He continued that with 30- and 40-year old systems, it was very difficult to keep current information in front of them. He stated that they provided all the information that was necessary to the outside agencies to do the reports that were necessary, but that the internal information that a newer system that had modern technology would provide would make them good stewards of the citizens' money.

Mayor Battle stated that Mr. Randy Taylor, Director of Finance, would at this time make a presentation on the new system, noting that this was very important to the financial life of the City, not only for the large, outside reports that were seen on a day-to-day basis but for the internal management of the City, so that each manager could have the information at their fingertips that they needed to provide a good, solid foundation for their decision-making processes, and to be good stewards of the City's money.

President Russell stated that he had served on this

committee as the Council's representative. He continued that it was very important, as everyone was aware, that they get good, solid information, that they had been expecting this from the department heads for some time. He stated that it was very important that this matter be considered by the Council at this meeting because the department heads needed to be confident they could provide good information to the Council, and that this system would allow them to do so, so that the Council would be able to better manage the City. He stated that he was looking forward to this presentation, that he was aware it would be good. He continued that the system would really help the Council and be able to make them more transparent to the citizens they represented.

Mr. Taylor stated that he would like to make a brief presentation concerning this matter, noting that item 15.aa, Resolution No. 14-479, on the agenda for this meeting was the contract they were asking the Council to approve at this time. He stated that this would select Tyler Technologies as the vendor to both sell them the software they were looking forward to having at the City and to assist them in implementing this over the following 18 months.

Mr. Taylor stated that some of his presentation would be a review for the Council, noting that they had been talking about this for a very long time. He continued that they had needed the system for a very long time. He stated that as Mayor Battle had mentioned, the core financial system was the

oldest software the City was running, they believed. He stated that this was the one they used to pay their bills, to keep up with all their financial reporting obligations, and to provide information to the departments. He stated that there were a lot of personnel involved in operating this system and there was a lot of paper that moved around the City every day related to that system, because it was old technology, that it had been designed in the 70's and 80's.

Mr. Taylor stated that they had actually sought to replace the old system prior to the recession, and that the Council had approved funding for it at that time, but because of the City's financial needs during the recession, that funding had been delayed. He stated that they had had to start over with this, and that at this time they were at the point where they could fund the project and move forward and make the changes that were needed.

Mr. Taylor stated that he had a brief PowerPoint presentation, and then other departments who were critical to this project, who were involved in it on a daily basis, would speak briefly.

Mr. Taylor stated, referring to a slide being shown, that this was a general overview of the financial systems at this time. He continued that the largest green object that was shown represented the core financial system that was the oldest in the City. He stated that there were many other systems that fed information into this, that some did this automatically and

some did it with the assistance of persons that caused this to happen. He stated that what they had sought to do for quite some time and what the goal was in this project was to integrate the systems so that most of them would operate on one platform. He continued that they would succeed in doing this with this project.

Mr. Taylor stated that what they would accomplish within the next 18 months would be a model that would look like what was being displayed on the slide. He stated that they would still have to have important mission-critical systems that served some of the departments' unique needs. He stated that this would feed into a much larger core system that would provide them the modern tools they needed to provide better information to their departmental customers and better information to the people that ran the City, being the Mayor and the City Council.

Mr. Taylor stated that that was generally what this project was about. He stated that the Finance Department, of course, represented the finance and payroll aspects of this.

Mr. Taylor stated that at this time he would like to recognize Mr. Chuck Hagood, City Clerk-Treasurer, to explain his role in this, and then there would be presentations by other department heads.

Mr. Hagood stated that the City Clerk-Treasurer's department collected and accounted for about 100 percent of the City's revenue, which fed into the main financial system. He

continued that the current system was outdated and could not be improved. He stated that the new system would greatly enhance the City Clerk-Treasurer's Department's ability to collect and account for the City revenue, which he noted would feed into the new system on a daily basis, and would be more up to date.

Mr. Hagood stated that the new financial system would also have an Accounts Receivable system, so that they could keep track of the money owed to the City and make sure that what they were owed, they were paid.

Mr. Hagood stated that he would like to thank Randy Taylor and Carlos Bowden for all the work they had done on this matter, noting that they had done a great job.

Mr. Hagood stated that what they needed was a new system altogether.

Mr. Byron Thomas, Director of Human Resources, stated that he would just like to reiterate what had already been said. He stated that from a Human Resources perspective, as well as from a Payroll Division perspective, they were excited about partnering with Tyler Technologies, because this would give them a new system to help manage and pay their most important resources, noting that this was the City employees. He stated that the City had more than 2250 employees, and that this system would allow them to better manage this. He stated that, also, the new system would provide other features and updated technology that would help them to meet the City's growing needs.

Mr. Thomas stated that his department was excited about this partnership and that they wanted to thank Randy and Carlos, as well, and the entire team that had been working on this project to get them where they were at this time.

Mr. Bill Steiner, Director of Information Technology Services, stated that the ITS Department was very excited about this project, noting that they had gotten their hopes up a few years prior about this, and then the economy had dashed them. He stated that the present system dated back to the mainframe that the City had been running on back in the early 80's. He stated that they were really looking forward to this updated software, noting that they had kind of been running in limbo since their hopes had been dashed for the new system several years prior.

Mr. Steiner stated that the selection of Tyler Technologies was wonderful because it would implement and integrate with everything they used at this time, that they had the SQL Sever already fully licensed, that it exported its information to Word and Excel and worked off SharePoint, that it would fit right in, and he believed they were going to love it. He expressed appreciation to the team which had been working on this.

Mr. Taylor stated that he would like to briefly explain the process they had gone through before the Council would make a decision on this significant contract. He continued that this was going to take a significant effort, of approximately

18 months, as he had mentioned.

Mr. Taylor stated that this was a project that required them to competitively evaluate the vendors that offered these kinds of software and services to them, and that this was what they had been doing for almost the entire prior year. He continued that a large group of persons had been involved in this, in helping to define what the City wanted to request from the vendor community.

Mr. Taylor stated that the request for proposals had been released the prior July, and they had received responses back from a number of vendors in August. He continued that since that time, they had been evaluating these proposals. He stated that commencing early in the calendar year, they had gone through the process of narrowing the list to the ones they felt could best meet the City's needs, and then they had evaluated these at a much deeper level.

Mr. Taylor stated that Mr. Hagood and others had been generous with their comments, but noted that this really had included all the persons on the project evaluation team, from all the departments, noting that this represented not only Finance and Clerk-Treasurer, but also Human Resources, ITS, and other departments that had helped them understand their needs, so that they could provide who they considered to be their customers things that would help them to accomplish their mission.

Mr. Taylor stated that at this time he would like to ask

the persons who were on the ERP Team to again stand. He stated that he could not introduce everyone by name, in the interest of time, but that he would like for them to stand. He stated that these persons represented all the departments that had previously been mentioned. He stated that they did need to recognize the work that these employees had put in for a long period of time, noting that some of them had spent a lot of time on the phone, some of them had visited places, and had spent a lot of time with customers of the different vendors. He asked that they recognize these persons' efforts in giving them the confidence they needed in order to recommend the award of this contract.

Mr. Taylor stated that they were recommending to the Council at this time that they award the contract to Tyler Technologies, noting that they were a company that had an established Munis product that had operated in the public sector for a very long time. He stated that a representative from the company would speak later in the meeting.

Mr. Taylor stated that at this time Mr. Carlos Bowden, the ERP Systems Project Coordinator, would speak about what would happen after the award of the contract and what they could look forward to.

Mr. Bowden stated that, as Mr. Taylor had previously mentioned, this project would take approximately 18 months, and that it would require the combined efforts of the City's ITS Department, experts from Tyler, and administrative personnel

from other departments in the City. He stated that it was a big project and that he had every confidence, based on what he had learned since he had been with the City, that it was going to be successful. He stated that he had visited with every department, and everyone had said they were ready to be done with the old system and were eager for the new system. He stated that one person had asked him earlier in the day if they could go live on the following day.

Mr. Bowden stated that he had already started forming leadership teams that would focus in certain areas, such as Payroll, Purchasing, Grants, and Projects. He stated that he had invited some of these persons to be in attendance at the meeting at this time. He asked the persons who were on one of these teams to please stand at this time.

Mr. Bowden stated that what would happen after this time, if the Council approved this contract, was that they would, within 45 days, have a kick-off event. He continued that in the meantime, they would be installing hardware and software. He stated that after that, there would be a detailed process, that they would have a detailed plan they would execute. He stated that there would be lots of time for testing, so that when they did go live, they would have a high confidence level that it would be successful.

Mr. Bowden introduced David Regnery, stating that he was representing Tyler Technologies and would tell them about the company.

Mr. Regnery stated that he was with Tyler Technologies and that they were thrilled to have been selected by the City of Huntsville, noting that it had been a long process and that the selection process had been very thorough.

Mr. Regnery stated that he would like to explain a little about the company, noting that they were most likely the largest software company that no one had ever heard of. He continued that they were the largest software company that focused exclusively on the public sector, noting that they had approximately 11,000 local governments across the United States using some of their software applications. He stated that not only did they provide ERP systems, which was what the City was considering at this time, but they also had Public Safety, Courts and Justice, Tax and Appraisals, that virtually any software application that a local government had a need for, Tyler had a solution for. He stated that they had been in business since 1966, reiterating that they focused exclusively on the public sector.

Mr. Regnery stated that they had approximately 1400 local governments using the Munis ERP System.

Mr. Regnery stated that the company was publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange, which he believed was important, because they would provide the City with the transparency of their financial capabilities. He stated that he would be happy to answer any questions the Mayor or the Council members might have of him.

President Russell stated that this matter would be taken up later in the meeting, under agenda item 15.a.a., Resolution No. 14-479. He stated that, however, if there were any specific questions for the vendor representative, they could certainly be asked at this time.

Councilman Culver stated that his was a rather rhetorical question, but that having gone through this himself in terms of switching to a new system, he had some concerns. He asked if when they were preparing to transition to the new system, they would run both systems simultaneously, in the event there were some glitches and things that would have to be fixed. He asked how this would be handled.

Mr. Regnery stated that there would be some parallel testing throughout the process. He continued that their system would actually be run in multiple databases, including a live database and a training database. He stated that the implementation process was set up so that they would not move forward from one phase to the next until it had been tested and both parties, Tyler and a representative of the City of Huntsville, had signed off that they were happy with the results.

Councilman Culver stated that he was just concerned about the risk of losing data, et cetera.

Mr. Regnery stated that Tyler had 1400 local governments and he was not aware of a single incident where they had lost data. He stated that they had their own conversion department,

and that as long as the City's IT department could provide them with the data in electronic format, they would convert that data, and that they would also have the historical data, as well.

President Russell stated that this matter would be taken up later in the meeting.

Councilman Culver stated that he had a resolution he would like to have added to the agenda, being a resolution recognizing Shirley Ann Gurley, who had passed away recently. He stated that she was a City of Huntsville employee and had been instrumental in the court referral program.

Councilman Culver moved to add the resolution recognizing Shirley Ann Gurley to the agenda for this meeting, which motion was duly seconded by President Russell.

President Russell called for the vote on the above motion, and the following vote occurred:

AYES: Culver, Olshefski, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

President Russell stated that the resolution would be added to the agenda.

Councilman Culver read and introduced a resolution recognizing the work and the person of Shirley Ann Gurley, for her dedicated awareness, attention and diligence to the improvement and betterment of life for those she served, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-442)

Councilman Culver moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

Councilman Culver read from the resolution, noting that Ms. Gurley had begun in 1986 serving as the only court referral officer in Madison County. He noted that her funeral services were to be held on Friday, June 27, 2014, at 12 p.m. at the Matkins Chapel Cumberland Presbyterian Church In America.

Councilman Culver read many highlights from her career and the many ways in which she served the City. He stated that she had began working in substance abuse in 1976, in treatment, prevention, and intervention programs. He continued that she was employed as a court referral officer in 1986 and had performed some probation responsibilities in the City of Huntsville Municipal Court and the Madison County District and Circuit courts. He stated that she was a certified addiction counselor, with both State and national certification. He stated that she appeared regularly in the courts and conducted evaluations and provided recommendations to the courts for treatment programs.

Councilman Culver read from the resolution that in addition to Ms. Gurley's work as a court referral officer, she was also a certified DUI instructor. He stated that she had over 35 years of work experience in the field of alcohol and drugs. He continued that she assisted in the certification of the court referral program throughout the state of Alabama and

facilitated training statewide for both court referral officers and supervisors in 1988.

Councilman Culver read from the resolution that Ms. Gurley had been named "Counselor of the Year" by the Alabama Association of Addiction Counselors in 1992. He stated that her many contributions to the Huntsville-Madison County legal community were well known, and that she had been presented with the 1999 Liberty Bell Award.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Culver stated that he would be presenting the resolution at the service on the following day. He stated that they were privileged to have with them at this meeting Mr. Wallace Dorning, who had previously been the Court Administrator for the City of Huntsville Municipal Court, since its inception, and that he was aware that he would, likewise, comment on the services of Ms. Gurley.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Public Hearings to be Held.

President Russell stated that it was the time and place in the meeting for a public hearing on a resolution authorizing the City Clerk-Treasurer to assess the cost of the cutting and removing of grass and weeds against certain properties.

President Russell recognized Mr. Ken Benion, Manager of Community Development.

Mr. Benion stated that the resolution identified

27 properties that were in violation of the City's grass and weed ordinance, noting that the properties were identified on Attachment A by the owner and the location. He stated that the owners had received written notification, by regular mail, that they were in violation of the ordinance and had been given 14 days to correct the violation. He stated that all owners had failed to respond, and that Community Development had issued work orders to cut these properties, at a total cost of \$6,255.51, and an average cost of \$231.69. He stated that Attachment A also identified the date and cost for cutting these properties.

Mr. Benion stated that the owners had received a written request, by regular mail, for payment, and they had failed to respond, so that he was at this time requesting that property assessments be placed on these properties in order to collect these costs.

Mr. Benion stated that the owners had been notified of this proposed action and might wish to speak at this time.

President Russell asked if there was anyone in the audience who would like to address the Council on this particular issue.

There was no response.

President Russell stated that the public hearing was closed.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the City Clerk-Treasurer to assess the cost of the

cutting and removing of grass and weeds against certain properties, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-443)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that it was the time and place in the meeting for a public hearing on Ordinance No. 14-316, amending Article 15, Residence 2-B District Regulations, Section 15.1, Uses Permitted, by adding single-family attached dwellings as a permitted use, which hearing was set at the May 8, 2014, Regular Council Meeting.

President Russell recognized Ms. Lisa Leddo of the Planning Division.

Ms. Leddo stated that this ordinance would add single-family attached dwellings, commonly known as townhomes, to Residence 2-B District. She stated that Residence 2-A District permitted all types of residences, including single-family attached dwellings, and that Residence 2-B District permitted all types of residential uses except for single-family attached dwellings. She stated that, interestingly enough, it did allow semi-detached dwellings, which she noted were two-unit townhomes. She stated that when townhomes were first added to the Zoning Ordinance in 1979, they had been added to Residence 2 and Residence 2-A Districts but not to Residence 2-B Districts.

Ms. Leddo stated that she had gone back and looked through the minutes of the Planning Commission and the City Council, and that there had been no mention of Residence 2-B, that the only issue had been to make sure they were not added to the single-family districts, Residence 1 through 1-B.

Ms. Leddo stated that they had had requests throughout the years to build townhomes in Residence 2-B Districts, and that the developers had had to go through the rezoning process in order to do this. She stated that at this time they would like to simply add the townhomes to the Residence 2-B District.

President Russell asked if there was anyone in the audience who would like to address the Council on this particular issue.

There was no response.

President Russell stated that the public hearing was closed.

Councilman Showers moved for approval of Ordinance No. 14-316, amending Article 15, Residence 2-B District Regulations, Section 15.1, Uses Permitted, by adding single-family attached dwellings as a permitted use, which ordinance was introduced at the May 8, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-316)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver.

Councilman Kling stated that at the work session held the prior week, the Council had heard from neighborhoods about the

impact of group homes, et cetera, in their neighborhoods. He asked Ms. Leddo if it was correct that this matter had nothing to do with the concept of the group homes that had been discussed.

Ms. Leddo stated that that was correct, noting that this concerned single-family, fee simple, attached townhomes.

Councilman Kling stated that he had just wanted to clarify that.

President Russell called for the vote on the above ordinance, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that it was the time and place in the meeting for a public hearing on Ordinance No. 14-318, amending Article 74, Non-Conforming Lots; Non-Conforming Uses of Land; Non-Conforming Structures; and Non-Conforming Uses of Structures and Premises, by deleting the existing Section 74.1, Non-Conforming Lots of Record, and adding a new Section 74.1, Non-Conforming Lots of Record and Unified Lots, which hearing was set at the May 8, 2014, Regular Council Meeting.

President Russell recognized Ms. Leddo.

Ms. Leddo stated that this ordinance would add some definitions and some regulations to the existing non-conforming lots of record and unified lots.

Ms. Leddo stated that on the slide being presented, one could see the definitions that had been added for Affiliate, Common Ownership, Contiguous Lot, Lot, Non-Conforming Lot of Record, and Unified Lot. She stated that to put it simply, a

Non-Conforming Lot of Record was a lot which was platted prior to 1963, noting that these lots were seen in the older areas of town, and that they were lots that, due to their size, would not meet the current zoning requirements for the district in which they were located.

Ms. Leddo stated that one could also see on the displayed slide that they had added two paragraphs: (1) "The contiguous lots shall be deemed merged into a single lot to the extent necessary to create a lot that is sufficient to meet the minimum lot width and lot area requirements for the given district without leaving a substandard residual lot." She stated that, for example, in some of the older areas of town, there would be a house that would perhaps be built across two or three lots, and that in some cases, that house had been torn down and three smaller houses had been built on the three lots, which she noted might or might not be out of character with the neighborhood.

Ms. Leddo stated that this was to maintain the existing character of the neighborhood. She continued to read as follows: "Where a substandard residual lot or lots would be left by the merger, then the residual lot or lots will be included in the merger to form a single lot." She stated that this was saying that once they had the lots, if they could create lots that would meet the zoning district, that would be fine, but if they could not, they would have to be merged and considered as a single lot.

Ms. Leddo read paragraph (2) as follows: "Where contiguous lots, at least one of which is a non-conforming lot of record, are under common ownership and each have a principal structure on the lot, then the non-conforming lot of record may retain its status as such and not be deemed merged into a single lot, but only so long as the principal structure is not abandoned." She stated that this was saying that if there were two homes on two separate lots under common ownership, even if those lots were non-conforming, if something happened to the homes, you could build them back unless you intentionally demolished them.

Ms. Leddo stated that a "Unified Lot," going back to the definition, was: "Two or more contiguous lots that are so integrated, through common or dependent structures or reliance on the other to meet setback requirements, as to form a unified whole." She stated that this simply meant that if one had two or more lots and their house crossed one of the lot lines or one had their garage on one of the adjacent lots, those lots would be considered as one lot, they would be considered as combined, once the lot lines were crossed.

President Russell asked if there was anyone in the audience who would like to address the Council on this particular issue.

Ms. Jackie Reed, 1000-A Bob Wallace Avenue, appeared before the Council, stating that this entire thing confused her. She continued that it was difficult for members of the

audience to hear what Ms. Leddo had said. She asked what "non-conforming uses of land" meant.

President Russell asked Ms. Leddo to reply to Ms. Reed's question.

Ms. Leddo stated that a "non-conforming use of land" would be a use that was put in place prior to the zoning ordinance. She stated that once the requirements for the district were put in place or changed, that use could continue until it was intentionally abandoned. She stated that, for instance, a car dealership was not allowed in an area that was zoned Neighborhood Business C-1, but if a car dealership was located in such an area prior to the zoning ordinance or prior to the land being rezoned, it could remain there until it was intentionally abandoned.

Ms. Reed inquired as to why they kept changing zoning ordinances, et cetera, noting that she had always been confused about this. She asked if this was an update.

President Russell stated to Ms. Reed that things changed. He asked Ms. Leddo if she would like to comment further on this.

Ms. Leddo stated that it was a dynamic world and things changed every day, that new uses were created, new situations arose, different housing types arose. She stated that the world was constantly changing, and they had to keep up with this.

President Russell asked if there was anyone else in the

audience who would like to address the Council on this particular issue.

There was no response.

President Russell stated that the public hearing was closed.

President Russell moved for approval of Ordinance No. 14-318, amending Article 74, Non-Conforming Lots; Non-Conforming Uses of Land; Non-Conforming Structures; and Non-Conforming Uses of Structures and Premises, by deleting the existing Section 74.1, Non-Conforming Lots of Record, and adding a new Section 74.1, Non-Conforming Lots of Record and Unified Lots, which ordinance was introduced at the May 8, 2014, Regular Council Meeting.

Said motion as duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

President Russell stated that he had several questions on this matter and that he needed to discuss this with persons in neighborhoods that he represented, particularly older neighborhoods.

President Russell moved to postpone consideration of Ordinance No. 14-318 until the July 24, 2014, meeting of the Council, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling, and was unanimously approved.

President Russell stated that it was the time and place in the meeting for a public hearing on Ordinance No. 14-320, zoning newly annexed property lying on the west side of Dug Hill Road and north of Raintree Road as Residence 1

District, which hearing was set at the May 8, 2014, Regular Council Meeting.

President Russell recognized Ms. Leddo.

Ms. Leddo stated that this was 0.99 acre of property, noting that it was the hatched area on the displayed slide. She stated that there was an existing single-family, detached dwelling on the property, and that the proposed zoning was Residence 1 District, which she noted was consistent with the other properties in the area. She stated that the Planning Commission had recommended approval of the proposed zoning.

President Russell asked if there was anyone in the audience who would like to address the Council on this particular issue.

There was no response.

President Russell stated that the public hearing was closed.

President Russell moved for approval of Ordinance No. 14-320, zoning newly annexed property lying on the west side of Dug Hill Road and north of Raintree Road as Residence 1 District, which ordinance was introduced at the May 8, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-320)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell called for the vote on the above ordinance, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that it was the time and place in the meeting for a public hearing on Ordinance No. 14-322, zoning newly annexed property lying on the north side of Mohawk Road and west of Taylor Road as Residence 1-A District, which hearing was set at the May 8, 2014, Regular Council Meeting.

President Russell recognized Ms. Leddo.

Ms. Leddo stated that this was 1.16 acres of property, noting that it was the hatched area on the displayed slide. She stated that there was an existing single-family, detached dwelling located on the property, and that the proposed zoning was Residence 1-A District, which she noted was consistent with the adjoining properties. She stated that the Planning Commission had recommended approval of the proposed zoning.

President Russell asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to address the Council on this particular issue.

There was no response.

President Russell stated that the public hearing was closed.

President Russell moved for approval of Ordinance No. 14-322, zoning newly annexed property lying on the north side of Mohawk Road and west of Taylor Road as Residence 1-A District, which ordinance was introduced at the May 8, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-322)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell called for the vote on the above ordinance, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Public Hearings to be Set.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to set a hearing for suspension of licensure for Everlite Business, Inc., at the July 10, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-444)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by a Councilman Kling.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Communications from the Public. He stated that persons would have three minutes in which to address the Council.

Ms. Lea Ellison, 3217 Hastings Road, appeared before the Council, stating that she had come to address the Administration's and Council's attention to the growing problem of the expanding coyote population in the Lower Piedmont, Thornton Acres, and Cedarhurst areas. She stated that a family of coyotes was living in the general area around Westchester Avenue and Wingate Avenue between Kirkwood Heights and Lower Piedmont, in a culvert there, and the family was

growing.

Ms. Ellison stated that they had an active Neighborhood Watch website in this area, and that in the past month or so it had been posted that three cats had been taken by coyotes, one small dog was missing, and that two dogs had been attacked in Cedarhurst.

Ms. Ellison stated that coyotes were predators and that they had been seen walking toward the Piedmont pool in the daytime. She continued that this was where their children went to swim. She stated that a photo of a coyote on Westchester had been taken in the daytime within the past couple of weeks. She stated that this had all been posted on the Neighborhood Watch website and some on the ClickFix website.

Ms. Ellison stated that a Westchester resident who had seen a coyote had told her earlier in the day that her grandchildren were no longer allowed to play in her front yard. She continued that the picture of the coyote had been taken as it walked past this person's house. She stated that this was a shame.

Ms. Ellison stated that if nothing was done, the problem would get worse, not better. She stated that these coyotes had been seen with pups.

Ms. Ellison stated that she understood that coyotes had long been residents of urban areas, but the increase in the population was a big concern.

Ms. Ellison stated that Huntsville Animal Services had

said that coyotes were not a danger to people, that they had posted a statement to that effect on the ClickFix website. She continued that they had suggested in this post that persons in the neighborhood not feed cats and dogs outside, that they not fill bird feeders, and that they not mulch their gardens or use compost, because those things would encourage coyotes.

Ms. Ellison stated that coyotes could be a danger to people, and that no one could predict when that would occur.

Ms. Ellison stated that earlier in the day, she had sent Councilman Kling an excerpt of a Wikipedia article about coyotes attacking people, mostly children. She stated that there had been 35 documented attacks in California from 1978 to 2003, and an additional 22 documented attacks in other places, 2007 to 2013. She stated that a disclaimer in the article stated that these were not complete lists.

Ms. Ellison stated that she had lived in Los Angeles for 18 years, and that she had seen articles in the paper all too often about a child stumbling into the path of a coyote when a parent was distracted, and the child had said, "Oh, look, a doggie." She stated that this was dangerous.

Ms. Ellison stated that one example from the Wikipedia site had said, "On August 24, 2011, before noon, a two-year-old Weymouth, Massachusetts, girl was walking next to her stroller with her grandmother when a coyote lunged out of some hedges along the sidewalk in a suburban residential area. The animal attacked from behind, knocked the child down, and bit her on

the back of her head, leaving a somewhat large wound. The grandmother was having trouble saving her from the coyote when a neighbor came out of a nearby house and got the pair into the house, shutting the coyote outside, where it stayed, listening, while the homeowner dialed 911."

President Russell asked Ms. Ellison if she needed additional time.

Ms. Ellison replied in the affirmative.

Ms. Ellison continued, "The girl was taken to the hospital to have her scalp stitched." She stated that she also began a course of rabies treatments.

Ms. Ellison stated that it appeared to her that they might be better off taking preventative action concerning this matter rather than waiting until a child stumbled into the path of one of these coyotes. She stated that that was what she was asking of the Council at this time, to do what they could to help them out in this situation and make their neighborhood safe.

Councilman Kling stated that Ms. Ellison had sent him copies of some of these articles, which he had forwarded to the other Council members, Mayor Battle, and some other staff people. He stated that it did appear that there was something very significant about this. He stated that he had actually received a copy of the picture of the coyote, noting that it basically looked like a dog but with an extra-large head. He stated that if one went up to a coyote, they could be in some serious trouble.

Councilman Kling stated that Dr. Sheppard was in the audience and stated that he was not aware if she would like to speak at this time, but suggested that she meet with Ms. Ellison and see if there might be some sort of plan of action concerning this matter. He stated that this was not the first time this type issue had been brought to his attention and that he believed something should be done to prevent it from getting worse.

Dr. Karen Sheppard, Director of Animal Services, appeared before the Council, stating that she had had similar discussion with approximately 200 persons about concerns about coyotes. She stated that she could not dismiss the fear and the anxiety, but noted that pet dogs caused approximately 50 deaths every year in the United States. She stated that often persons were more worried about coyotes, but dogs were dangerous compared to coyotes.

Dr. Sheppard stated that they could talk through this matter, and that there might be some things to do to help with this. She stated that so much of the problem with urban wildlife was that persons created such a safe environment, with plenty of food, plenty of places for them to have their pups, and all the different babies, raccoons, skunks, snakes, deer, et cetera. She stated that they just loved living here, and they became desensitized, that they were out during the day. She stated that coyotes would stop and look at persons, and that instinctively persons felt they were going to come and get

them, and that they could cause problems. She continued that Southern California really had some unusual situations, and that they believed they were actually cross-breeding with some of the feral dogs in the area, and that that was making them much more dangerous. She stated that New Mexico and Arizona also had some problems. She stated that this worried her, that she worried that eventually they would have this in Alabama.

Dr. Sheppard reiterated that they would talk through this matter, and perhaps have a Community Watch meeting, and she could go on some of these streets and look. She stated that she had actually driven down the streets, trying to find the ditch they had been talking about. She stated that she was aware that a lot of persons lived in this area, and that she knew there were cats and dogs. She stated that her main anxiety was the pets, as far as being on the threat list.

Councilman Kling asked Dr. Sheppard to keep in mind that if one saw a dog out on the street, there was a pretty good chance that the dog had been vaccinated for rabies, but that he did not believe too many coyotes had been taken to a veterinarian.

Dr. Shepard stated that at this time they were not having trouble with rabies in the community, that they did look for it. She stated that there were problems with this in lower Alabama, but they had not had a case of rabies in Madison County for many, many years. She continued that, also, a lot of the dogs that attacked persons had not been

vaccinated.

Ms. Caja Bond, 13073 Hermosa Drive, appeared before the Council. She stated that one of her best friends in this world was not a person, that he was a dog. She stated that she had rescued him from a Kill Shelter, and that his time had been almost up. She stated that she was appearing before the Council to speak for dogs like him who would not be rescued. She stated that Huntsville could set a trend that would speak for the moral values that everyone held dear by becoming the first No Kill Community in the state.

Ms. Bond stated that many persons who had a pet were already aware of the immeasurable gifts they brought, that the benefits of having a pet extended well beyond companionship. She stated that research had shown that persons who had pets got more exercise, had less stress, and had consistent emotional support. She stated that the American Heart Association had done several studies that showed that owning a pet reduced cardiovascular disease and increased survival for those who had had a heart attack. She stated that without a doubt, there was no way to put a price tag on the unconditional love that pets brought into persons' lives.

Ms. Bond stated that they could, however, put a price tag on the killing and disposal of these precious beings in the City Kill Shelter, being negative revenue for the city. She stated that it was an unfortunate reality that every week animals were destroyed at the City Kill Shelter, most of which

were healthy, treatable, and adoptable.

Ms. Bond stated that by turning Huntsville into a No Kill Community, the monetary figure would become positive, so that it would become a win-win situation for the citizens and the animals. She stated that there were hundreds of people in this great city who had rescued animals from a kill shelter or rescued a stray dog or cat with no other place to go, and that their actions spoke louder than words, that their actions were a public outcry.

Ms. Bond stated that the killing of these helpless and innocent animals in the city might seem like an easy solution, but that it was simply unethical and morally wrong. She stated that it was the City's responsibility to make this change at this time, that it was time to quit being complacent with the status quo, and bravely step forward into a new way. She stated that together they could add to Huntsville's recognized assets of Southern hospitality and be one of the premier places in the South to live, work, and raise a family, and also be recognized as one of the most kind and compassionate cities in the state. She stated that a No Kill Huntsville would be a change that everyone could be proud of.

President Russell stated to Mr. Hamilton that he was aware he had been working on this situation and asked if he had anything to add to this at this time.

Mr. Hamilton stated that they were at this time actively developing a strategy to reduce the euthanasia in the

Huntsville shelter. He stated that he had had the opportunity in the prior week to do an update to a number of the groups that ultimately would have to partner with them for them to be able to make progress in this area. He stated that he felt it had been a productive meeting, noting that Councilman Olshefski had also been in attendance. He stated that he believed they were headed that way, noting that there were a lot of statistics relating to how the community had dealt with the animals. He stated that part of what they had looked at was the statistics for the last few years. He stated that to get even close to the goals they all shared, they had to reduce the intake at the shelter. He stated that the community had actually made a lot of progress, but there was much more progress to be made.

Mr. Hamilton stated that they had a pretty good sense of where they stood at this time, that they had some programs in place that would contribute to this progress, but they had a long way to go. He reiterated that they were actively working on this. He stated that it would not be the animal shelter alone that would get there, that it would be the entire community that would get there. He stated that there were a lot of private organizations that stood ready to partner with them in this process. He stated that he believed they were making progress, that it was not something that would be achieved overnight, that it would be a multi-year process, but he believed they were headed in the right direction. He stated

that there was a lot of work yet to be done in order to get there.

Mayor Battle stated that when he had first come into office, one of the worst reports he had gotten was the report that there were 10,000 animals taken in and 3,500 adopted out, and the others had been euthanized. He stated that they had started working on that from Day One, and that they were now down to an intake of approximately 7,500, because of spay and neuter programs and less production of unwanted animals, and they were adopting out approximately 4,500. He stated that they were still not where they wanted to be in this regard, but they were moving toward that, and they were moving quickly.

Mayor Battle stated that if they just dealt with the city of Huntsville animals, they would probably be there at this time, but stated that they dealt with the city of Huntsville and Madison County, because they were the collection point for all of Madison County. He stated that there was still work to be done, as Mr. Hamilton had said. He continued that they were committed to working with the groups, noting that it had to be a partnership to make it successful, that it could not be just the City of Huntsville doing it, that it had to be a partnership with everybody. He stated that they looked forward to working with everybody.

Ms. Chaundra Jones, 1100 Chestnut Road, appeared before the Council, stating that she was a concerned parent, community advocate, and citizen who would like to see addressed the

increase in shootings and gun violence in the Northwest precinct of the city. She stated that in the local news coverage, statistics were that there had been 10 reported shootings for this precinct, three of which had occurred in the prior month. She stated that several of these shootings had occurred close to or well beyond midnight and in areas with little or no adult supervision. She stated that solutions to this that she felt would be feasible would include a citywide curfew for all youth under the age of 17, with fines and educational classes for those violating the curfew; increased police coverage in known areas where youth hung out; and more stringent background checks for individuals purchasing guns.

Ms. Jones stated that she was well aware that there might be other solutions that the Council members had considered and others that may have been proposed by other concerned citizens. She stated that the bottom line was that at this time she was seeking their leadership and political influence to begin the conversation that would spawn the development of the infrastructure and support needed for the implementation of legislative changes, programs, and/or education that would lead to the decrease in these shootings and gun violence.

Ms. Jones stated that her prayer was that these and other solutions would not fall on deaf ears and be recorded in the minutes of this meeting, but there would be no action. She continued that her prayer was that these spoken words would begin the dialogue for productive leadership and

transformation, discussions, research-based studies, and the implementation of solutions and desired outcomes that would bring about true change for the youth in the city. She stated that she was asking each of them to be reflective and look upon themselves and their circles of influence and begin to have meaningful productive and transformative discussions and commitments to take action regarding this. She stated that she was asking each of them to be a part of the solution and not a part of the problem. She stated that these combined efforts should bring a resolution to this matter.

Ms. Jones stated that she looked forward to being a part of the wave of change that would significantly decrease these shootings and gun violence.

President Russell stated to Ms. Jones that there was another person who would be speaking concerning violence and stated that after that speaker, they would have a representative of the Police Department comment on this matter.

Mr. Wallace Dorning, 3215 Waterman Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that he was the President of the Space City Chapter of the Alabama Retired Employees Association. He stated that there were at this time approximately 1,000 City of Huntsville employees who were retired. He stated that they needed and requested the Council's support for the 2014 bonus. He continued that they must have this support before August 1, 2014. He stated that the City would not have to fund this bonus up front, that they would have two years in which to pay.

Mr. Dorning stated that he was fortunate in having hired Ms. Shirley Ann Gurley, whom Councilman Culver had honored earlier in the meeting. He stated that Ms. Gurley would not be getting her bonus, that her funeral would be on the following day.

Ms. Jackie Reed, 1000-A Bob Wallace Avenue, appeared before the Council, stating that she would like to thank the speaker who had spoken about the crime in the city and also the speaker who had spoken about the retirees. She stated that anything she could do concerning these matters, she would be happy to be a part of.

Ms. Reed stated that she would like to thank all the citizens who cared and wanted to know about their government, noting that government affected everyone's life, one way or the other, every day.

Ms. Reed stated that she appreciated the presentation concerning the new financial system, noting that this was an update that was needed. She thanked all the employees who had worked on this. She stated that she would like to know the cost of the system, noting that she did not have a problem with it, that she did not care what it cost, that it was needed, but she would like to know the cost.

Ms. Reed stated that she would like to see the needs of every department in the City, what they needed to give the quality of life to the city of Huntsville. She stated that she understood that they had just one street sweeper. She stated

that perhaps they could put a program in out of some of this to determine what these departments needed to run the City and do a good job. She stated that perhaps also in this program, they could come up with a way to tell the Council members how to spend the City's money, noting that this would be the best program the City could come up with.

Ms. Reed stated that she would like to see them clean up the weeds in the city and the bushes that were covering the main roads. She stated that there were weeds in College Park, off of Holmes Avenue, that the Cancer Center had allowed, that it was growing up to be a forest over there, and it was affecting the neighborhood. She stated that also on Holmes Avenue, UAH had turned into a wilderness, noting that they had previously kept it cut, but that now it was a wilderness. She stated that there was also a wilderness on Holmes Avenue where the City was working on Pinhook Creek, noting that it had been there for years. She stated that when they got Pinhook Creek like they wanted it, they should take care of that. She stated that she also would ask them once again if that was for a riverwalk.

Ms. Reed stated that there would be a city election on August 26, 2014, for some School Board Members and some Council members. She stated that government should work every day, 365 days, and they should not come up with all these goodies at election time. She stated that every time she came in the Council Chambers, she wanted to hear what could be done for

citizens' quality of life.

Ms. Reed asked if the Council had anything to do with mosquito trucks, noting that they were certainly needed. She stated if they were not funding them, to find some money and help with this.

Ms. Reed stated that the Coca Cola plant situation was really bothering her and asked if the City had any interest in this, if they had a proposal on it, if they were going buy it, and if the ball park was coming up. She stated that the question for Mayor Battle was about the ball park, asking if he had bought into that idea like he had about the chickens. She stated that she still had her eyes on the chickens and she had her eyes on the ball park.

President Russell stated to Ms. Reed that the software program would be discussed under item 15.aa on the agenda, and that they would get back with her about the weeds and bushes, et cetera.

Mr. Jerry Cox, 4029 Telstar Circle, appeared before the Council, stating that first, as a veteran of the United States Army, he wished to respectfully acknowledge the one U.S. Army soldier and the three U.S. Marines killed in combat in Afghanistan in the prior two weeks, two being 19 years old.

Mr. Cox stated that he would like to praise Ms. Jones, stating that if soldiers were dying in Afghanistan at the age of 19, they should not have kids dying on the streets of Huntsville at the ages of 16, 17, and 15. He thanked Ms. Jones

for her comments.

Mr. Cox stated that Channel 48 had reported on the prior day on light rail discussions in the city, noting that this was very exciting to him. He stated that the service should not only be between South Huntsville and downtown but that Northeast Madison County should also be in the discussion.

Mr. Cox stated that, speaking of transportation, it was time to move from the discussion phase to the expansion of the City shuttle bus system to Saturday service. He stated that this service would provide mass transportation to those who needed it and to those who should use it.

Mr. Cox stated that he saw in the audience a man who was about to leave Huntsville and who was one of Channel 19's best reporters, Venton Blandin. He stated that he had known Mr. Blandin since he had come to his home many years prior to get a story about an automobile accident that had occurred in his front yard. He stated that Mr. Blandin had done a great job for the people of Huntsville and that he wished him well.

Ms. Starr Wherry, 2144 Atkins, appeared before the Council, stating that she lived in Meadow Hills, where there was a lot of violence going on. She stated that there were people that she could call by name that were very disrespectful and disorderly, that there were 15-year-old drug dealers walking around with guns.

Ms. Wherry stated that she had talked with several people and that she wanted to say thank you for what they had done in

Meadow Hills. She continued that, however, there were 14- and 15-year-olds walking around pulling guns and just being disrespectful. She stated that they needed to be put in their place. She stated that this was something that really should be addressed, that it was a serious thing. She stated that her son was 14 years old and that he had had a gun pulled in his face recently, and that she had had a drive-by at her house, reiterating that she lived in Meadow Hills.

Ms. Wherry asked the Council to please help save their children in Meadow Hills. She stated to Councilman Showers that they needed him, that he needed to step it up, that it was really bad out there, that she lived there, and it was bad.

President Russell asked Deputy Chief Kirk Giles of the Police Department to come to the microphone.

Deputy Chief Giles appeared at the microphone.

President Russell asked Deputy Chief Giles if he would address the Council and the public concerning the comments that had been made by some of the speakers earlier in the meeting.

Deputy Chief Giles stated that the Police Department was aware that there was increased violence, and that they were addressing this through what they called "special detail." He stated that he had met with the North Precinct Captain earlier in the day and they were going to discuss this matter again on the following day. He stated that they also had some other things in the works, as well. He stated that parental involvement was the biggest thing that would help them, stating

that they would do everything they possibly could to address the issue, but that it was not something they could do by themselves.

President Russell asked what the citizens should do if they saw something unusual in the neighborhood or felt they could help in any way.

Deputy Chief Giles stated that, obviously, if they saw 14- and 15-year olds walking around with guns, they should call them. He stated that when the police rode through the neighborhood, they would not be flashing their weapons in front of them, but that if persons would call them and give them a description, and so forth, they could certainly stop persons and check them. He stated that they needed more involvement from the community, with respect to people calling them and letting them know what was going on. He stated that, obviously, when the police were in the neighborhood and very visible, persons were not going to be out flashing.

Councilman Showers stated that he appreciated Deputy Chief Giles indicating what they were going to do. He stated that in the last three Council meetings, this matter had come up, and that, basically, they had been told the same thing, that they would look into it, that they were going to do this, they were going to do that, and that citizens needed to be involved.

Councilman Showers stated that there were a lot of citizens who were eager to report incidents, and that they had officers who came out and said to them that there was nothing

they could do, or if they could give them names, and then that would be it. He stated that there were crimes being committed where they had officers come out and they would not take prints, that they did not really investigate, or they asked persons to just call them down at the precinct, and the element of crime continued.

Councilman Showers stated that the citizens in his district all had the same concerns, noting that he appreciated Ms. Jones' remarks. He stated that they did not want anyone to think that crime was happening only in North Huntsville, that it was happening all over the city, that shootings were taking place all over the city. He stated that most people did not want to talk about guns. He continued that at some point, they were going to have to take these guns off the street.

Councilman Showers stated that Councilman Kling had been serving on the Council when they had had a gun buy-back, and they had had tables full of guns that had been turned in. He continued that, of course, this element was then reduced. He stated that there were too many guns in the hands of persons who did not need to have guns in their hands. He stated that they had to do something to make citizens comfortable in the city. He continued that persons heard them at every Thursday night meeting saying what they were going to do with these command groups, new groups, but that the citizens in the North did not ever see these groups. He stated that they needed presence, that units needed to be seen in the neighborhoods

where crime was, and not just when someone called, but to be present in the neighborhoods. He stated that he understood the force was limited, to be able to have officers be everywhere at the same time.

Councilman Showers stated that he got calls about units being parked, parked in places where they should not be parked, when they could be patrolling neighborhoods, certain neighborhoods that had a history of the element of crime. He stated that he did not know who was responsible for making sure that units were where they were supposed to be, but that there were many times that the units were really not in the areas where they needed to be.

Councilman Showers stated that he hoped that as they created these task forces to curtail the element of crime in the city, they could become more visible. He stated that a lot of the crimes were committed because they believed the police were not going to show up, that they were not going to come. He continued that it was correct that when the police did come, the ones that were out there ran and hid, and then when the police left, they came right back out. He stated that in some way they had to have a presence in all of these neighborhoods, North Huntsville and all the other areas, South, East, and West. He stated that they just needed more presence. He stated that budget time was coming up, and if they needed to put more officers on the street, they needed to do that.

Deputy Chief Giles stated that that was certainly one item

they had on the agenda for this meeting. He stated that Councilman Showers was correct in that officers were all over the city and stated that when one saw officers at certain locations, what they might not be aware of was that that officer might be finishing up a call that he was responding to, or finishing up a report, etc. He stated that officers were assigned in areas, and that particularly Meadow Hills was certainly one of them. He stated that they had an officer present up there as often as they possibly could, but that that officer would also be responsible for other areas and he would have to be pulled out to take calls, as well. He stated that he could assure Councilman Showers that they were going to do everything they possibly could.

Mayor Battle stated to Councilman Showers that he believed he had been out of town the prior week when they had been discussing the budget, noting that in the upcoming year's budget, they would be reflecting some of this concern by adding some numbers to the police officers' ranks, for patrol officers. He stated that they needed to do this, noting that they had a bigger city and they had more to work with and more to patrol. He stated that this was one of the two items they would be looking at, redoing retail corridors and adding to the number of policemen. He stated that he believed these were the only two items they could afford to do in the budget, but that they needed to be two priority items they could do.

President Russell stated to Mr. Tommy Brown, Director of

Parking and Public Transit, that Mr. Cox had raised some questions about public transportation, and Councilman Kling had asked for an update on the status of this.

Mr. Brown stated that Saturday service was certainly something that was on their radar, that it most likely was the No. 1 requested service when they did their customer surveys every year. He stated that, obviously, the issue was funding, noting that at this point they were using all their Federal allocation of funding. He stated that they were in a fairly decent position in that they had not had to cut service and they had not raised fares. He continued that most services had had to do this. He reiterated that this was certainly something they would like to do when the funding was available.

Councilman Kling asked if there was any ball park estimate as to how much it would cost to implement this.

Mr. Brown stated that their comprehensive operating analysis they had completed the prior year had had an estimate of approximately \$.5 million to operate Saturday service. He stated that they would have to take a closer look at this, noting that there was a possibility of running it at some lesser level of service, et cetera.

Councilman Kling asked if there was any way that something like the TRAM buses could be used on a limited basis for Saturdays, just to start out, just to fill in the gap.

Mr. Brown stated that they could certainly put any level of service on the street that they were directed to do, if they

had the funding to do it. He continued that if they started out with a low level of service, the ridership would not be there, that it would not serve people like it needed to.

Councilman Showers stated that he was aware they could get a lot of Federal funding for this particular division. He asked Mayor Battle if they had in their grant writers, the Governmental representatives that represented the City, a position to solicit grants, Federal grants, that would help Transportation.

Mayor Battle replied in the affirmative, noting that Mr. Brown was very, very adept at this. He stated that he was signing grant applications for them all the time. He stated that they had just passed on the MPO the prior day the plans for the following year. He stated that they were putting approximately \$1 million into their bus system, and the Federal government was putting in approximately \$2.5 million. He stated that this was their breakdown at this time.

Mayor Battle stated that he had just come back from a meeting with the mayors from Montgomery, Mobile, and Birmingham, and that each of these cities had a much more extensive bus system, but each of them was further and further in dept, and that it was costing them millions and millions of dollars to run their bus systems each year. He stated that the City of Huntsville ran a bus system on an economical basis, on what they could run it with, with the Federal money they could get. He continued that they did go after all the possible

Federal money to keep the bus system running. He stated that they had done a great job on this, that they saw a lot more ridership at this time than they had seen in the past. He stated that, however, stretching this out would put them in the liability stage, that less and less money was coming from the Federal government at this time, and that this just had to be expected. He stated that they could pick up the slack that was there on the present system, but that on a future system, if they expanded, they would have a hard time picking up the slack if the Federal funding was not available.

President Russell stated that he would like to recognize Venton Blandin and asked him to go to the microphone.

Mr. Blandin appeared at the microphone.

President Russell stated that they would like to thank Mr. Blandin for his service in the city. He asked him what his plans were for the future.

Mr. Blandin stated that he had taken a job in Birmingham, at ABC 33/40.

Councilman Kling stated that, as a former news reporter, he would like to congratulate Mr. Blandin, noting that Birmingham was a Top 40 market, which was much larger than Huntsville. He stated to Mr. Blandin that he could always come back home to Huntsville.

Mr. Blandin stated that he would always come back to Huntsville, that his church family was here, and he was also seeing some familiar faces in the audience.

Mayor Battle asked if Mr. Blandin could come forward so that they could all shake his hand and thank him for his service.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Board Appointments to be Voted On.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Ronald Boles to the Huntsville Electric Utility Board, for a term to expire July 1, 2017, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-445)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell stated that Councilman Olshefski had recused himself from this item and would be abstaining from voting.

President Russell called for a roll call vote on the above resolution, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Kling, Showers, Russell

ABSTAIN: Olshefski

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Stanley Statum to the Huntsville Natural Gas Utility Board, for a term to expire July 1, 2017, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-446)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell stated that Councilman Olshefski had recused himself from this item and would be abstaining from voting.

President Russell called for a roll call vote on the above resolution, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Kling, Showers, Russell

ABSTAIN: Olshefski

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Stanley Statum to the Huntsville Water Utility Board, for a term to expire July 1, 2017, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-447)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell stated that Councilman Olshefski had recused himself from this item and would be abstaining from voting.

President Russell called for a roll call vote on the above resolution, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Kling, Showers, Russell

ABSTAIN: Olshefski

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to appoint John Gully to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-448)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing

resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution to appoint Mark Poslajko to the Human Relations Commission of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, Place 4, for a term to expire September 22, 2014, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-449)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Olshefski read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Vickie Guerrieri to the Huntsville Police Citizens Advisory Council, for a term to expire June 22, 2016, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-450)

Councilman Olshefski moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Culver read and introduced a resolution to reappoint James Bailey to the Huntsville Police Citizens Advisory Council, for a term to expire June 22, 2016, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-451)

Councilman Culver moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Joseph A. Lee to the Downtown Redevelopment Authority, for a term to expire July 26, 2020, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-452)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Culver read and introduced a resolution to appoint Dr. Edwinta Merriweather to the Human Relations Commission of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, Place 5, for a term to expire September 8, 2018, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-453)

Councilman Culver moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Board Appointment Nominations.

President Russell nominated David Little for reappointment to the Huntsville Police Citizens Advisory Council, for a term to expire July 8, 2016.

Councilman Kling nominated Pam Cobb for appointment to the Huntsville Police Citizens Advisory Council, for a term to expire June 22, 2016.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Approval of Expenditures.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution

authorizing expenditures for payment, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-454)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Kling asked Mr. Randy Taylor, Finance Director, for the Finance Committee Report.

Mr. Taylor stated that he did not have any numbers as far as sales tax and such, that he would have this at the next meeting. He stated that he did want to update the Council on a debt re-funding project that they were in the middle of. He continued that the Council was aware that they were always evaluating the debt they had outstanding and whether or not, with the interest rate on the debt, it would be economically in their best interest to re-fund any of this. He stated that they did this on a fairly regular basis when the conditions were right and their policy objectives could be met, noting that they had a requirement that they had to save a certain amount of money.

Mr. Taylor stated that they were in that window at this time with some of the debt that was available to be refinanced. He stated that this number changed every week because interest rates changed very often. He stated that he had just wanted to let the Council know that they were in the middle of this at this time, evaluating how they could save the City some money in that regard. He stated that perhaps they would have a

recommendation for the Council at the next Council meeting, that it would depend upon what the market would do and what kind of movement they would have in that direction. He stated that he just wanted them to be advised that they would bring a savings opportunity to them if it made sense.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Communications from the Mayor. He recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle made the following appointments:

Appointment of Jennifer Nelson to the Planning Commission of the City of Huntsville, for a term to expire October 26, 2015.

Reappointment of Brenda Martin to the Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau, for a four-year term to expire April 11, 2018.

Reappointment of Willie Love to the Huntsville Police Citizens Advisory Council, for a two-year term to expire July 8, 2016.

Reappointment of Ruben Flores to the Huntsville Police Citizens Advisory Council, for a two-year term to expire July 8, 2016.

Mayor Battle stated that there had been a lot of activities going on in the city, that there was a street festival on Church Street and NASA on the Square. He stated that the Greene Street Market and Thursday Night Bikes were taking place at this time, on the Square and at the Greene Street Market site across from the Church of the Nativity.

Mayor Battle stated that another Concerts in the Park would be on June 30, stating that persons should bring their chairs and picnic baskets and come out and have fun. He stated that they had been having huge crowds, and it had been a lot of fun.

Mayor Battle stated that on Fridays, from 5 to 7, in the Entertainment District, on the Square, persons could come down and hear music and get something to eat, and enjoy being downtown and seeing friends and neighbors, that it was a great way to spend an evening. He continued that he hoped everyone would come out and enjoy themselves.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Communications from Council members.

Councilman Showers stated that on the following day, June 27, Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church would have its 11th Annual Scholarship Banquet.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Hamilton if he could advise him as to when the Open House would be for the North Precinct.

Mr. Hamilton stated that he did not have that date at this time, but he would get it to Councilman Showers.

Councilman Olshefski stated that, as always, he appreciated Mr. Cox's update concerning the soldiers and marines, the great Americans who fought our wars.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he would like to thank Mr. Steiner, whom he noted had worked real closely on the issue concerning dangling cables. He stated that this was a big deal

in his community and that he certainly appreciated this.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he would also like to thank Ms. Joy McKee for cleaning something that she had not wanted to clean, noting that he appreciated it. He stated that she had helped an elderly man who had been cleaning the subject ditch for years and was unable to continue to do this due to health reasons.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he appreciated all the comments concerning the policing situation in the city, noting that he also had problems in his area but he felt the Police were doing the best they could in his area.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he had been having some problems with speeding in his area, on roads where speed bumps could not be installed, and that Capt. Corey Harris had assisted him with this matter. He continued that he certainly appreciated this.

Councilman Olshefski stated that Army Lt. Col. Matt Williams and his wife, Melanie, and their children, Alex and Evan, were living with him at this time. He stated that Lt. Col. Williams had served in Hawaii, Germany, and Korea, and had not been stationed in the United States since 2007. He stated that he would be serving a year on Redstone Arsenal and then retire, and that he had already purchased a home in Hampton Cove. He stated that he appreciated them being with him and that he knew they were going to love the city.

Councilman Culver thanked Ms. Jones for her comments

earlier in the meeting.

Councilman Culver stated that Ms. Laurie McCaulley, a School Board representative, was present at the meeting. He asked Ms. McCaulley if she would like for him to defer some of his time to her.

Ms. McCaulley replied in the negative.

Councilman Culver wished everyone a happy 4th of July, noting that persons should keep in mind the purpose of Independence Day, noting that he was thinking of persons such as Councilman Olshefski, who had gone through war and served this country well. He stated that as persons celebrated and enjoyed the freedoms they had, religious worship, and all the other things associated with living in America, they should think about the families of the men and women who had fought and died to make this possible.

Councilman Kling stated that he would like to thank Mr. Ken Benion of Community Development, noting that the Council dealt with a lot of challenging issues, and that one of the things that had really opened his eyes and had been a great thing for the neighborhood was something that Mr. Benion had been working on. He continued that this was the infamous 300 Sunset Avenue, which he noted had been sort of a jungle house in the neighborhood for well over 10 years. He stated that Mr. Benion and his staff had been working on this for several years and that what had taken place recently, after discussion with the property owner, the attorney, et cetera,

had been amazing. He stated that this was still a work in progress, but that he wanted to thank Mr. Benion for this, noting that it was a great thing. He stated that he would also like to say thank you to him on behalf of the neighborhood, noting that they really appreciated the hard work that he and his staff had done to make this happen. He stated that he was aware that they were still working on the structure but noted that it was a phenomenally great improvement.

Councilman Kling stated that there would be a youth triathlon on the following Saturday, sponsored by the Piedmont Recreation Association, for young people between the ages of 7 and 14. He stated that he would be in attendance at the event and would be looking forward to seeing all the great participants, noting that this was the second annual event.

Councilman Kling stated that Whitesburg Baptist Church was holding the "I Love America" celebration on the coming weekend, noting that this gave persons an opportunity to seriously look at the 4th of July and what it meant to them, and to pay homage to persons for the values of the country. He stated that it was very much appreciated that the church did this for the community.

Councilman Kling stated that on the following Saturday, the Merrimack/Joe Bradley Reunion would be taking place at the Fraternal Order of Eagles. He continued that this was an event where persons from all over the country came back to visit the old Merrimack community. He stated that he was looking forward

to attending this event. He stated that there would be a tour of some of the restored homes in the Merrimack neighborhood for the out-of-town visitors. He stated that he appreciated the great work that persons in the neighborhood had done to make this event happen.

Councilman Kling stated that perhaps Ms. McKee could relay a message to Terry Hatfield, noting that there was a gentleman who lived on Hobbs Road who was very disabled, and there were some carpet scraps behind this person's house, and he wanted to ask if they could pick this carpet up, noting that it would be a one-time thing. He stated that this was a Mr. Hartman on Hobbs Road, noting that he had sent an email concerning this.

President Russell stated that he would like to echo some of Mayor Battle's comments, noting that the prior weekend had been very busy. He stated that one of the best events was Friday night in Downtown Huntsville, noting that they had had 20 food trucks on Church Street. He stated that there had been about 7500 persons downtown for a free event, noting that there had been a great family atmosphere.

President Russell stated that this had been followed up on Saturday morning with NASA on the Square, noting that if there was an event that would make a community proud, this was certainly one. He stated that they had had scientists sitting in chairs explaining what they did in the 60's, 70's, 80's, and at this time. He stated that they had talked about how important NASA was to the past of Huntsville and how important

it would be to the future. He continued that they had talked about dancing in the streets when the first satellite had been launched and what a historic event it was when man had landed on the moon. He continued that they had talked about just imagining how Huntsville would dance when man landed on Mars. He stated that this was a great event, noting that there were approximately 4500 persons in attendance.

President Russell congratulated Downtown Huntsville and the persons that made this work.

President Russell congratulated all the volunteers who had worked in the Little League program, with Parks and Recreation. He stated that they had put a lot of effort into the parks, noting that there were a lot of volunteers, although the City did some things toward this. He stated that on the prior Saturday, he had gone to Mayfair Park to watch an All-Star Tournament, and he had been amazed at how many volunteers they had there working. He stated that he would really like to say thank you to this group.

President Russell stated that he would like to thank and congratulate Mayor Battle, noting that many persons did not understand what the Mayor's job was. He continued that he was not sure he fully understood it, but he noted that the Mayor ran a huge city and had 2400 employees, and there were things going on every second of the day, and he was sure he had full-time worries. He stated that on the prior Saturday, Mayor Battle had asked him to fill in for him due to family

obligations, and that he could not believe how many events he had in such a short amount of time. He thanked Mayor Battle for everything he did for the city, noting that it went unseen and no one mentioned it, but they were aware of it.

Councilman Showers stated that he would be remiss if he failed to commend Terry Hatfield and Joy McKee for what they did for the city. He stated that he had mentioned the prior week about the debris that was on the ground in North Huntsville and stated that the employees who worked for Ms. McKee and Mr. Hatfield had taken care of this. He thanked them for this.

Councilman Showers stated that on Pulaski Pike, at the site where the new school would be constructed, there had been some debris dumped on the west side at that particular spot. He asked if someone could look into this on the following day or on Saturday, noting that this would be appreciated.

Councilman Showers stated that, also, at Glen Park Drive and Venona Avenue, there was a grass area the City had been keeping cut, but it had grown up more than knee-high at that particular area, near the post office on Mastin Lake.

Councilman Showers asked who the person was that would need to be contacted when truck businesses wanted to be a part of the downtown festivities, in terms of their business. He stated that he had received several calls from ice-shaving businesses concerning their ability to participate when the other trucks were selling all the good food. He stated that

they wanted to know how they might cash in on the activities with their ice-crushing machine trucks.

President Russell inquired of Councilman Showers if he was asking about a business license or if he was talking about Downtown Huntsville, to get involved with the food trucks.

Councilman Showers stated that they basically wanted to have an invitation, that they did not want to just come down. He asked if there was someone who needed to be contacted before they could participate in this group.

President Russell stated that they needed to contact the Clerk-Treasurer's office and make sure they were able to do business in the city of Huntsville.

Mr. Chuck Hagood, City Clerk-Treasurer, stated that if these persons would contact his office, they would make sure they could do business downtown, with whichever activity was going on. He stated that his office would be glad to explain this to these persons.

Councilman Showers stated that he had had more calls from the ice-shaving businesses. He asked if there was any element about what they did that would be different from the rest of the vendors.

Mr. Hagood replied in the negative.

Mr. Shane Davis, Director of Urban Development, stated that if these persons wanted to be part of the summer series of the food truck rallies that were happening every third Friday, they could contact Downtown Huntsville, Inc., Mr. Chad Emerson

and he could provide information concerning this.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Hamilton if he would get an appointment for him with Mr. Dennis Madsen, Manager of Urban Development and Long-Range Planning, as soon as possible, noting that this was related to economic development in North Huntsville.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Unfinished Business Items for Action.

President Russell moved for approval of Resolution No. 14-346, revoking that certain license agreement between the City of Huntsville and Dwight Wright, approved by Resolution No. 13-568, on July 25, 2013, which Resolution No. 14-346 was postponed at the May 8, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, and again postponed at the May 22, 2014, Regular Council Meeting.

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell moved to postpone consideration of Resolution No. 14-346 until the next regular meeting of the Council, on July 10, 2014. He stated that this would provide the opportunity to draw up a written agreement between the two parties.

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver.

President Russell called for the vote on the above motion, and it was unanimously approved.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was New Business Items for Consideration or Action. He reiterated that item 15.b and item 15.c had been deleted from

the agenda.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to invoke Progress Bank Letter of Credit No. 9000008900-02 for Midtowne on the Park Phase II Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-455)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Investment Management Agreement with Regions Bank for the City's Post Retirement Benefit Trust, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-456)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the low bidders meeting specifications as outlined in the attached Summary of Bids for Acceptance, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-457)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution

authorizing the acceptance of donations, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-458)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance to amend Budget Ordinance No. 13-630 by changing the authorized personnel strength in various departments and funds, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-459)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance to amend Budget Ordinance No. 13-630 by changing appropriated funding for various departments and funds, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-460)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and API Digital to provide dual internet service bandwidth, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-461)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing

resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Cost Reimbursement Agreement with the Northeast Alabama Traffic Safety Office in the amount of \$2,500 for traffic-enforcement duties, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-462)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell moved for approval of a request for authorization to fill the budgeted vacant Police Officer positions to provide for authorized strength, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling, and was unanimously approved.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a consulting agreement between the City of Huntsville and James Ssemambo, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-464)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a License Agreement with Bice Farms, Inc., for the Lease of Farm Land located in the

vicinity of Moores Mill Road at Vintage Park Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-465)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Lease Agreement with McDonald Farms for the Lease of Farm Land in Cummings Research Park, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-466)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Lease Agreement with McDonald Farms for the Lease of Farm Land in the Greenbrier area, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-467)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Renewal Land Lease Agreement with Alan Wade Murphy and Kathleen Murphy for the Lease of Farm Land in the vicinity of the Western Area

Treatment Plant, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-468)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the low bidder, Pro Electric, Inc., for Big Spring Park East-Colored Lighting Installation, Project No. 65-14-SP18, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-469)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Brown and Caldwell for Engineering Hydraulic Modeling Services for Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) and Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) Submittals for Lake 5 at Research Park West, Project No. 65-14-DR02, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-470)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to modify the agreement with J.C. Cheek Contractors, Inc., for Periodic Bid for Traffic Striping and

Marking-2012, Project No. 65-12-SP33, by Modification No. 2, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-471)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to modify the agreement with Weaver Environmental Services Company, Inc., for Periodic Bid for Emergency Manhole Rehabilitation, Project No. 65-13-SP35, by Modification No. 1, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-472)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell moved for approval of a request for authorization for Water Pollution Control to advertise and fill the budgeted vacant position of Water Pollution Control Facilities Technician, Grade 13, at higher than minimum if necessary, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling, and was unanimously approved.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Election Systems and Software, Inc., for rental of the electronic voting counting machines and the AUTOMARK coding to be used during the August 26, 2014, Municipal Election and any Municipal Run-Off

Election on October 7, 2014, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-474)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance appointing the Election Officials for the August 26, 2014, City of Huntsville, Alabama, Municipal Election and, if one is needed, the October 7, 2014, City of Huntsville Run-Off Election, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-475)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Pitney Bowes, Inc., for e-Return Receipt service with DM Series and Connect+ Mailing System, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-476)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell moved for approval of a request for authorization to advertise and fill two (2) Landscape Maintenance Worker positions, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling, and was unanimously approved.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to seek a forfeiture of the cash bond issued to William Smothers, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-477)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell asked Mr. Joffrion for an explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. Joffrion stated that this was a fairly routine item when a taxpayer engaged in the sale of alcoholic beverages failed to pay the liquor taxes. He stated that each licensee was required to post a bond upon issuance of the license. He continued that in this case, the amount of the bond was \$8,000. He stated that the amount of the taxes owed exceeded this amount. He stated that it was common practice for the City to invoke such a bond in order to recover taxes that were owed to the City of Huntsville that had not been paid.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Joffrion if circumstances had created a problem in regard to the payment of these taxes, if once this action was taken by the Council, the vendor would still have to pay the taxes.

Mr. Joffrion replied in the affirmative. He stated that if they were still licensed to do business in the city, the licensee would have to pay taxes. He stated that the City would recover \$8,000 of the amount owed from the bonding

company, and the balance would still be owed to the City of Huntsville, that it would not be a debt that would be relieved. He continued that they would not recover twice on any amount owed.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement with Stanard & Associates, Inc., to develop and administer the written examination for the position of Fire Captain, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-478)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver.

President Russell asked Chief Howard McFarlen of Fire and Rescue for an explanation of the above resolution.

Chief McFarlen stated that they had a roster of eligible candidates to be promoted to Fire Captain and that the current roster would run out around August 1, and they were trying to get this approved so that they could give the examination so they would have a current roster for promotions as they would become necessary.

Councilman Showers asked Chief McFarlen if it was correct that this was not the first time they had used a standardized test in order to get a list of prospective fire persons for the Fire Captain list.

Chief McFarlen stated that this was a continuation of the same program they had used for the prior several years, that they just wanted to be sure that they had a standing roster in order to make promotions.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc., for the purchase and implementation of financial and human resources software, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-479)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers

President Russell stated that this was the program that had been presented earlier in the meeting and asked if there were any questions concerning it.

Councilman Showers stated that he would like to ask ITS if there had been other participating contractors who had submitted bids for this particular work, other than Tyler Technologies.

Mr. Steiner stated that there absolutely had been others. He stated that he believed Mr. Taylor had offered up a list of what they did throughout the process and how they evaluated. He continued that there were a number of persons who had bid on this.

Councilman Showers inquired as to whether there had been any local submissions.

Mr. Steiner stated that, to his knowledge, there had not been any local ones.

President Russell asked Mr. Taylor if he could advise as to the cost involved in this.

Mr. Taylor stated that the contract that was before the Council at this time was a \$1.5 million contract, which he noted represented approximately \$1 million for the software itself and approximately \$450,000 worth of implementation services and data-conversion services. He stated that they would purchase the software in phases, and that some of the money would be withheld until they had a successful implementation, a go live, of the new software. He continued that the services that would be paid to Tyler would be for them to help them implement it, to design the system. He stated that this would be paid incrementally as they delivered these services, with a portion of it, again, to be held until the project was successful. He continued that 25 percent of the software costs, \$250,000, and 10 percent of the services, approximately an additional \$50,000, would be held until there was a successful project.

President Russell asked Mr. Taylor how this program would benefit the citizens, what they might expect from it.

Mr. Taylor stated that, No. 1, first and foremost, was that the City had to replace its system. He continued that the

systems that the City had were outdated, and they had difficulty running because of the technology they were operating within. He stated that it cost the citizens more money than they needed to spend to operate the old system. He stated that they had too many people and too much paper and other resources that were consumed by the system. He stated that there was employees' time that could be better used in helping to make decisions for the City, as opposed to just pushing paper and operating processes.

Mr. Taylor stated that another thing was the Payroll and Human Resources software. He stated that people were the City's most important resource, that they knew that, that this was what they spent most of their money on. He stated that the system they had was a good system, but that it was also outdated, and it would cost a lot of money to upgrade it, and they were choosing to upgrade it in this consolidated manner. He stated that this would make the system much more efficient and would require fewer people and less paper, over time.

Mr. Taylor stated that this would provide the Council, as manager of the City, the information they needed, and would provide all levels of management in the City more information, to be able to know what was going on day to day in the City, as Mayor Battle had described.

President Russell stated that Ms. Reed had brought up the question if this program would tell the Council how to spend the City's money, and stated that he knew the answer to that,

but asked what might the program tell them.

Mr. Taylor stated that it would tell them what they spent their money on, where it came from, and many things related to that. He stated that it would not make the decision as to what the money should be spent on, noting that they would never propose a machine that would do that for them. He stated that what it would do would be to free people up to have more time to work on those types of things.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he had lived through change a lot and that he was all about it, that he thought this was great, but he wanted to share something with them. He asked when they would be going live, when the old system would be gone and the new system would be in.

Mr. Taylor stated that they were intending to replace the financial system first, and that they would arrange that immediately with the vendor, that the first goal was to replace the core financial system on October 1, 2015. He noted that this would be approximately 14 months after commencing the process in August. He continued that the payroll system would go live on January 1, 2016.

Councilman Olshefski stated that an issue he had always had was that there would be two things going on at the same time, that they would still be running the day-to-day operation, that they would still have to run the old system and do all of that, while at the same time they would be training on the new system. He stated that it certainly was not easy to

do both of these, noting that they were already busy as it was, and now they would be bringing in something new. He stated that he could share this from a soldier perspective, noting that soldiers were so busy getting their daily job done that a training piece did not seem to kick in as well, and then when they thought they were finally there, they were not always all there.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he thought this was wonderful, but that he certainly hoped they had a great plan laid out on the training aspect of it, noting that it did take time and they had to give the people time to train while they were still doing their daily jobs.

Mr. Taylor stated that they certainly understood this, although they had not done this in this comprehensive a fashion in a very long time. He stated that the payroll project they had done approximately 13 years prior had been similar in that regard, and that it required a lot of time. He stated that this was going to be a difficult project, noting that they would go live on the following day if they could, but they were aware this was not practical. He stated that the schedule that he had just proposed to the Council had been worked out with the vendor, noting that they had done this many times, and that they were building into the schedule the opportunity for the City to do all these things. He stated that they were going to go live right, they were not going to go live early.

Councilman Kling asked if there was going to be a cap on

the amount this was going to cost, that they were not going to have any glitches, where they might have additional expenses involved, with software, etc., similar to what the circumstance had been with Huntsville Utilities a couple of years prior.

Mr. Taylor stated that that was a good question. He continued that they had built this into the contract as best they could. He stated that they were aware there would be things they would run into that would be unexpected, but they had spent the prior five months fully evaluating the vendors that had made their short list, and that they had also worked closely with Tyler, that they had had several rounds of very specific questions about the way they did things at this time at the City, some of which had to stay that way. He stated that they had had Tyler communicate to them clearly what they were doing with their product to make sure it worked that way. He stated that they were very confident about what they had been through and what the contract represented, in order to be able to do these things.

Mr. Taylor stated that they were not expecting any of that, that it had not been the track record with Tyler and their other customers. He stated that Tyler had provided them references, and that they had visited some of them and they had spoken with many of them, and that had not been their experience. He stated that he believed this was a credit to all the persons who had been involved in this, the questions that they had had with them, and the contract that was before

the Council. He stated that it would not surprise them to see some change, but that it would not be significant, based upon the work they had done on this.

Councilman Kling asked if it was correct that it was possible that there might be, like, a small tune-up contract amendment or something that could come up somewhere down the line.

Mr. Taylor stated that it was possible. He stated that they believed it was a contract that would meet their needs. He stated that if there were changes, it would be like the change orders the Council saw on other contracts, that it would be within the budget they had established.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Taylor, concerning the training aspect of this program, if Tyler Technologies would be the people who would be training the City employees on the new technology.

Mr. Taylor replied in the affirmative, stating that they would be the trainers, that they would actually train the City's training specialists. He stated that Tyler would train them, and they would train all the other persons in the City who would use the system in different ways. He stated that when Tyler did an implementation, they allowed only their team to provide implementation services, so that the persons who made the software could do it right, and that they would be the only ones who would train.

Councilman Showers asked if there might be any buyers,

perhaps smaller municipalities, for the equipment that the City was having replaced.

Mr. Taylor stated that he would have to defer to Mr. Steiner on that question. He stated that they were planning to purchase some additional computer hardware that they had been planning to purchase anyway, just because of the way this program would be running. He stated that he would have to ask Mr. Steiner what the market would be for some of the equipment they would no longer be using.

Mr. Steiner stated that the hardware it was running on at this time could actually be reused for other things, if it was not too old, and that most of it was not too old, and that the software licensing of, for example, the Mapper and the PeopleSoft, could be transferrable. He stated that they could see if there was a market. He continued that, as they had said earlier, Mapper, being a very, very old version, as well as PeopleSoft, it would probably not be worth a lot, but they would certainly look into it.

Mayor Battle stated that he would like to say thank you to Mr. Taylor for the job he had done on this, noting that he and his team had worked countless hours to pull this together. He continued that he had come to him six months prior and discussed with him about bringing in someone who could push this project through, to be a project lead on it, and that this had been Carlos Bowden. He stated that they had put together a team, and they had put out requests for proposal, that they had

gone through numerous proposals, and then had had oral presentations by three or four vendors. He stated that they had been working endless hours trying to make sure that this happened and that it happened in the right way, so that the City would be protected, and making sure also that they were the best financial stewards of the City's money. He stated that they had done a fantastic job.

Mr. Taylor stated that he would have to recognize the other departments, noting that earlier he had failed to recognize Mr. Joffrion and his staff. He continued that they had assisted in putting together the contract that was before the Council at this time, to protect the City's interests.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 14-479, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Non-Roster Communications from the Public.

Mr. Walt Hennessee, 10002 Hogan Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that he would like to commend and extend appreciation for the first Citizens Academy at Ditto Landing, noting that this had turned out to be a huge success. He stated that it had been nice to see hundreds of people come together from South Huntsville and share their dreams of what they thought Ditto Landing could be. He stated that they had broken out into work sessions, and that it had been amazing to see the ideas that had been put on paper to transfer Ditto Landing into a jewel of the South. He thanked

Mayor Battle and Mr. Dennis Madsen for their leadership in putting this together.

Mr. Hennessee stated that the spay/neuter clinic had been officially closed, but that, as he had mentioned at a previous Council meeting, they had a grant, so that they had funds available to give vouchers to low-income persons who had dogs that needed to be fixed. He stated that they had had this program ongoing at this time for 20 days, and that in working with Flint River Animal Hospital, they had fixed more than 127 dogs. He stated that one female dog and one male dog and their offspring could produce 67,000 puppies over a six-year period. He stated that this dovetailed into the No Kill presentation the Council had heard earlier in the meeting, that it supported the No Kill goal the City had. He commended them for adopting that as a priority for the city.

Mr. Hennessee reiterated that if anyone had a dog that needed to be fixed, they should contact them, that they had these vouchers available, that they had plenty of money left, and they would be using that money to alter animals until it ran out.

Mr. Hennessee stated that they were in the process of looking at getting reopened, that they were interviewing veterinarians or personnel to become associated with the clinic, and they hoped to be open soon. He stated that anyone who needed an animal fixed should contact the clinic at 256-348-8741.

Ms. Jackie Reed again appeared before the Council, stating that she wanted to thank President Russell for the kind words he had said about Mayor Battle. She stated that she would also like to thank all the Council members for the respect they had given her, no matter how hard she had beat on them.

Ms. Reed stated that she certainly appreciated Mr. Taylor, that she had the confidence that he could handle this program, that she trusted him wholeheartedly.

Ms. Reed stated, concerning the budget, that they needed more police officers, more police cars, perhaps a street sweeper or two, and a four-percent raise for the City employees. She stated that they should think about this when they started putting together the budget.

Ms. Laurie McCaulley appeared before the Council, expressing appreciation for the wonderful partnership with the Huntsville City Schools. She stated that she also wanted to thank them for the free shuttle bus passes. She thanked the City for all they did, noting that the children were the most prized possessions. She thanked them for feeding them, noting that if children were hungry, they could not learn. She stated that they were trying to break the chain of poverty, to make sure children could learn and grow and make Huntsville a better place.

President Russell asked if anyone else wished to address the Council at this time.

There was no response.

Councilman Culver stated to Mr. Hamilton that it had been reported to him that one of the businesses in District 5, namely Walgreens at University and Jordan, had an issue with a drainage cover that might be hazardous to persons walking through the parking lot. He asked that this matter be addressed.

Upon motion, duly seconded, it was voted to adjourn.

PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK-TREASURER